

Vote—"Yes."

Mr. Speaker, I recently met with Prime Minister Netanyahu and other Israeli leaders who are working in earnest to gain a peaceful solution along the West Bank. These efforts include negotiations about the formation of a permanent Palestinian State.

Recent statements by PLO Leader Yassir Arafat, regarding his willingness to declare an independent Palestinian State along the West Bank, are threatening those fragile negotiations. Should Mr. Arafat follow through on his statement, he will be violating the Oslo accords and dragging the peace process towards hostility. I support this non-binding resolution expressing the sense of Congress that decisions about the Palestinian controlled land along the West Bank must be made through the negotiation process. It also states that Congress opposes any attempts, outside of the negotiation process, to establish a Palestinian State. The agreements made through the peace process must be upheld by all parties involved.

TRIBUTE TO WALNUT CREEK LIONS CLUB

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Walnut Creek Lions Club as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary. Since its founding in April 1924, the Walnut Creek Lions Club has provided immeasurable services to the citizens of Contra Costa County. I am proud to honor them as they celebrate their 75 years of dedication to the betterment of their community and the world at large.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, Lions are committed to sharing their success by helping those less fortunate than themselves. Created in 1917 by Melvin Jones in Chicago, Lions Clubs International now enjoys over 44,000 clubs worldwide, with a membership of 1.4 million in more than 185 countries. In 1925, Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness". Thus began the Lions Clubs' renown for their sight-related programs, including SightFirst, the world's largest blindness prevention program. The motto of every Lion, however, is simply "We Serve", which eloquently expresses the true mission of this community service club.

Please join me in recognizing the Walnut Creek Lions Club as they celebrate their 75th anniversary. Their service-minded spirit is inspirational and I am honored that they are a part of my constituency.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT A POSTAGE STAMP SHOULD BE ISSUED HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of a con-

current resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that a postage stamp should be issued honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Junior League.

One of my constituents, in Georgia, Ms. Martina Goscha, a dedicated and long time member of the Cobb Marietta, Junior League, brought this important issue to my attention.

The Junior League was founded in 1901, in New York City, by Mary Harriman. The Association was launched for those more fortunate in helping those more in need. Volunteers would work in settlement houses on New York's Lower East Side to improve child health, nutrition, and literacy.

The Junior League's efforts caught on, and in 1912 the Junior League expanded to Montreal. In 1914, the Junior League of St. Louis marched for women's suffrage and was active in World War I efforts by selling bonds and working in Army hospitals. In 1921, 30 Junior Leagues joined to form the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) to collectively advance their work.

As the AJLI expanded, its chapters became more involved in addressing urban issues; developing programs in education, housing, and social services. Among countless other issues, the AJLI has been active in collaborating on juvenile delinquency with the National Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the U.S. Department of Justice.

In 1989, the Association received the President's Volunteer Action Award. In 1990, the AJLI launched a massive immunization campaign in four countries. Currently, 193,000 women are members of the AJLI, dedicated to improving their communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in supporting this concurrent resolution. The 100th Anniversary of the AJLI celebrates a century of community service by volunteers dedicated to community service, leadership and achievement.

HONORING INGLEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Inglewood Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary.

Inglewood Baptist Church was constituted on March 9, 1924, and came about as a result of the personal vision of Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Overall, Sr. who initially met with thirty members for Bible study in a personal residence located at 2330 Shelton Avenue on November 18, 1923.

These original charter members included: Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Overall, Sr., Mr. Robert J. Overall, Jr., Mrs. Ellen DeMontbreun, Ms. Mattie DeMontbreun, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hardaway, Mr. and Mrs. John R. West, Ms. Hattie Mae West, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. J. Burton, Mr. Edwin Ragan, Ms. Florine Ragan, Mr. Finis E. Smith, Mrs. Patie Gwynn, Mrs. Ennis Eagan, Mrs. J.L. White, Mr. Walter Roach, Mrs. W. Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Reed, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Caldwell,

and Mr. T. L. Cummings. These fine individuals came together to constitute a New Testament Church under the name of Inglewood Baptist Church, over seventy-five years ago.

Inglewood Baptist Church is to be commended for its outstanding contributions to the community over the years, including the biblical qualities of Bible study, prayer, fellowship, Christian education, evangelism and missions, as well as its continuing cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention.

This congregation should further be commended for its commitment to world-wide missions through its annual giving to the Cooperative Missions Program of the Southern Baptist Convention and the missionaries the church has supported such as Archie and Margaret Dunaway, Dr. J. Mansfield, and Ethel Bailey.

Inglewood Baptist Church must also be recognized for its ongoing leadership as a ministry and outreach center serving Inglewood and the greater Nashville area while continuing a tradition of excellence through commitment to the future.

The Inglewood Baptist Church and its membership have served as outstanding examples of faithfulness and brotherly love to all of Middle Tennessee. I wish them the best on their 75th Anniversary.

REGARDING THE AGRICULTURE ECONOMY

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by thanking my colleagues Ms. KAPTUR, and the Ranking Member on the Agriculture Committee, Mr. STENHOLM, for gathering us here to talk about the agriculture economy. There is perhaps no more timely or pressing issue facing our nation's farmers and the legislators who represent them in Washington, and I am grateful to have the opportunity to participate in this discussion.

The importance of agriculture to the families and economy of Illinois' 19th District cannot be overstated, and I am proud to serve on the Agriculture Committee, where I hope to have a role in shaping our nation's agriculture policy. Every one of the communities I represent is deeply impacted when agriculture experiences tough times, and these are some of the toughest in recent memory.

The pork industry is in the midst of a crisis, and prices are also low for other commodities that are critical to my district, such as corn and soybeans. The Natural Resource Conservation Service in Illinois is facing a major budget shortfall that will likely necessitate office closures of month-long furloughs of all of the state's NRCS employees. Farmers are experiencing undue delays in receiving disaster assistance and other USDA payments, and Farm Service Agency offices throughout the country are understaffed and overworked.

I urge my colleagues to recognize the urgency of this situation and hope we can work together to find both short- and long-term solutions to the problems that plague our agriculture community.

I believe one way we can help is by exempting agricultural products from trade sanctions. The health of America's agriculture